

California Council of School Attorneys

July 15, 2010

Dear Colleagues:

As we enter into the new fiscal year CCSA, like our clients, is facing increased fiscal demands and responsibilities. As a result, we must increase our fees \$15.00 per member. We believe that CCSA offers tremendous value in terms of collegiality and continuing education. As outlined below, this modest increase will help to ensure the sustainability of our organization.

CCSA has enjoyed a long and rewarding partnership with the California School Boards Association (CSBA). As an affiliate organization, CSBA has handled our finances, provided administrative support and has covered the cost of our membership directory and materials for our workshops. CSBA has requested that beginning with this fiscal year, CCSA make a contribution toward the operating expenses of our organization. We agree that this must occur.

Currently, CCSA has three levels of membership; regular membership, associate membership and membership for in-house counsel (attorneys who are employees of a government entity or public school districts/COEs). For regular members and in-house members, a substantial amount of our dues is directed to the National School Boards Association / Council of School Attorneys ("NSBA/COSA"). Like our association with CSBA, we have enjoyed a long standing affiliation with NSBA/COSA. All of our members other than associate members hold dual membership in COSA. Currently, \$170 of our dues for regular members is directed to COSA as part of an affiliation agreement between NSBA and CSBA. A substantial contribution from in-house counsel dues is also sent to COSA. CCSA maintains all of dues for associate members. The result is that CCSA retains a limited amount of the fees collected each year. Thus, a fee increase is necessary to cover our operating expenses and meet our obligation to CSBA.

We have invited a representative from COSA to speak at our workshop on September 24, to discuss the benefits of COSA membership including new enhanced membership benefits. Beginning in 2011, COSA membership will include access to all COSA publications at no charge. A sample of COSA publications along with other informative documents will be available at the September workshop. We will also make a brief presentation on CCSA finances, projected increases and membership options. Your input is essential and we encourage your thoughts and comments. Please feel free to contact any member of the Board.

Our September program will take place at the Doubletree Hotel/Orange County Airport. We know that you will enjoy having the meeting at this facility. The program is full of timely topics designed to enhance your practice of school law. So, if you are not yet a member, please join! For our loyal members, thank you for our on-going support of CCSA. We look forward to seeing you in Orange County on September 24th.

Sincerely,

CCSA 2010 Board of Directors: Lenore Silverman, Diane Marshall-Freeman, Laura Schulkind, Carl Corbin, Scot Yarnell, Peter Fagen, Melanie Petersen

Enclosure: 2010-11 Membership Form

(if you would like a blank form, please contact Shelley Cody at scody@csba.org)

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